

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): An operating process for an active node ~~(1)~~-suitable for the processing of data packets by executing a program contained or identified in an active packet, this program being intended to control data packet processing functions, ~~characterised in that it includes the following steps~~the operating process comprising:

~~a)reception of~~receiving an active packet;

~~b)execution of~~executing a request contained in the active packet, and

wherein the request is intended to configure packet processing functions;

~~execution of~~executing a program contained or identified in the active packet, and

wherein the program is intended to control data packet processing functions, and

wherein this the program being is executed after the execution of this the request,

and

wherein said active packet is sent to a network address, either after the executing

of the request contained in the active packet or after the executing of the program

contained or identified in the active packet, depending on the request contained

in the active packet.

2. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that step b~~

~~includes the~~ wherein the executing the request comprises putting a packet filter in place of a
packet filter.

3. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that step~~
~~b) wherein the executing the request~~ is followed by a step for ~~the receipt~~ receiving and storage
~~of storing~~ packets corresponding to the packet filter, for at least as long as ~~step e~~ the execution of
the program has not been implemented.

4. (Currently Amended): A process according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~
said active packet should be sent to an network address; ~~this process including, after step b), a~~
~~step for sending of the active packet to said address~~ after the executing of the request contained in
the active packet.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that step~~
~~b) wherein the executing of the request contained in the active packet~~ includes an operation for ~~the~~
a dimensioning of a packet storage queue.

7. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the executing of the
request contained in the active packet ~~characterized in that step b)~~ includes an operation for
reading, from the active packet, ~~the~~ parameters for running the program.

8. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the executing of the program contained or identified in the active packet~~characterised in that step e)~~ includes an operation for ~~the downloading of~~ a program identified in the active packet.

9. (Currently Amended) An active node ~~(1)~~ suitable for the processing of data packets by executing a program contained or identified in an active packet, this program being intended to control data packet processing functions, ~~characterised in that it includes the~~ the active node comprising means for:

a) ~~receipt~~ receiving of an active packet;

b) ~~execution of~~ executing a request contained in the active packet, and intended to –
configure packet processing functions;

~~and execution of~~ executing of a program contained or identified in the active packet,
and intended to control data packet processing functions, this program being
executed after the execution of this request,

b) wherein said active packet is sent to a network address, either after the
executing of the request contained in the active packet or after the executing of
the program contained or identified in the active packet, depending on the request
contained in the active packet.

10. (Currently Amended): A active data packet, ~~characterised in that it includes~~ used in
an operating process suitable for processing the data packet by executing a program contained or
identified in the active packet, the active data packet comprising:

—a request intended to be executed in an active node to configure packet processing functions, before the execution of a program controlling packet processing functions;

—and ~~a~~ the program or an identifier for ~~a~~ the program, ~~this~~ the program being intended to be executed at ~~an~~ the active node in order to control the packet processing functions, after the request is executed,
wherein said active data packet is sent to a network address, either after the executing of the request contained in the active data packet or after the executing of the program contained or identified in the active data packet, depending on the request contained in the active data packet.
~~execution of the request.~~

11. (Currently Amended): ~~A~~ The active data packet according to claim ~~[[11]]~~ 10, of the IP type, in which said program or said program identifier, and said request, are placed in the ~~options header~~ of the IP packet.